

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office's views in the Advisory Action, for reasons of record and further stated herein, but certain claims have been amended herein to make even clearer the inappropriateness of the rejections.

Independent Claim 1 now recites that the wire harness holder is pivotally supported on the base for movement between a first position away from the base and a second position adjacent to the base, at which a space is formed between a portion of the wire harness holder and the base. The first position is shown in Fig. 1 of Applicants' drawings, for example, and the second position is shown in Figs. 13 and 14, for example. The space recited in Claim 1 is the space in which end portion 43 of the carpet is located, as shown in Fig. 12, for example.

Claim 1 now recites holder engagement means for connecting the wire harness holder to the base when the wire harness holder is in the second position and for sandwiching an end portion of a floor carpet, in said space, between the base and the portion of the wire harness holder. See, e.g.,

a portion of arm 19 pressing on the end portion 43 of the carpet in Fig. 12.

Claim 1 next recites that the fastener further comprises first and second rocker molding engagement means having inlets facing away from the base for receiving and retaining respective support legs therein formed on an inner surface of the rocker molding, when the wire harness holder is in the second position. See, for example, the first and second rocker molding engagement means 22 and 37 shown in Fig. 14.

Finally, Claim 1 recites that the first rocker molding engagement means is located adjacent to the holder engagement means, and the second rocker molding engagement means is located adjacent to the pivotal support of the wire harness holder to the base, as shown in Figs. 12-14, for example.

The invention recited in Claim 1 clearly distinguishes patentably from the prior art. In Pavlak et al. there is no space between a portion of the wire harness holder and the base in which an end portion of a floor carpet can be sandwiched between the base and the portion of the wire harness holder. Furthermore, the structure shown in Fig. 5 of the reference does not constitute first and second rocker molding engagement means having inlets facing away from the

base, and the reference does not disclose first rocker molding engagement means located adjacent to holder engagement means and second rocker molding engagement means located adjacent to the pivotal support of the wire harness holder to the base. Girodo does not compensate for the deficiencies of Pavlak et al.

Accordingly, Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon should be allowed.

Note, in particular, that dependent Claim 5 requires that the carpet engagement protrusion have a stop for limiting the insertion of the first support leg in the first rocker molding engagement means and that dependent Claim 6 further requires that the carpet engagement protrusion have another stop for limiting the movement of the first rocker molding engagement means towards the base. Nothing of this sort is even remotely suggested by the references.

Claim 7 now recites that the fastener has a pair of rocker molding engagement means, having inlets facing away from the base, and being spaced from one another for receiving and retaining respective support legs of a rocker molding. No such means and its function are disclosed in the prior art. Accordingly, Claim 7 and the claims dependent thereon should be allowed.

Note that dependent Claim 8 requires that one of the rocker molding engagement means is a part of the base and the other rocker molding engagement means is a part of the wire harness holder.

Note that dependent Claim 10 requires that a portion of one arm be spaced from the base when the free ends of the arcuate arms are connected.

Note that dependent Claim 11 requires that the recited portion of said one arm is constructed to engage the end of the carpet in said space for holding the end of the carpet on the protrusion.

The foregoing features of the dependent claims are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:kss

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 903-9000

November 10, 2005

By: Nelson H. Shapiro
Nelson H. Shapiro
Reg. No. 17,095

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

November 10, 2005
Date

Nelson H. Shapiro
Signature